Chowgule Industries

42. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY :
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published in *Premchal Weekly* dated the 16th September, 1985 published from Saharanpur under the heading "*Chowgule Company Dwara* 50,000 *Ka Chuna Lagane Ka Prayas*";

(b) whether it is a fact that Chowgule Industries have been allowed to import Xerox Machines from abroad for supply to consumers in India;

(c) whether Government have received complaints for supply of defective machines to the consumers; if so, what action Government have taken against the company for import of sub-standard machines in the name of new machines; and

(d) what is the quantum of machines imported by the company during the last three years, what is the price at which the machines have been imported and the duty paid by them and at what price these machines are being sold in the market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Industry had not granted any licence to M/s Chowgule Industries for import of Xerox machines. However, the requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Prices of various types of tyres

43. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of prices of tyres of various types *i.e.* for trucks, cars, scooters, etc, as prevailing before the reduction of excise duty and as prevailing on the 30th September, 1985 *i.e.* after the cut in excise duty; and

(b) how far has the benefit of cut in excise duty percolated down to the ultimate consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There was no change in excise duty on automotive tyres in September, 1985.

(b) Does not arise.

Highly Inflated bills issued by DESU

44. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated the 6th September, 1985 regarding difficulties being encountered by the consumers because of highly inflated bills issued by DESU, non-adjustment of excess amount charged and payment of bills under 'duress'; and

(b) if so, what remedial measures have been taken by Government to streamline the working of DESU to save the consumers from unnecessary harassment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DESU have taken various measures to give better service to the consumers which include:

(1) asking computer agencies to correct the wrong average stored by computer when bills are revised.

(2) instructing staff to concentrate on checking of audit reports of the computer agencies to minimise the cases of billing with wrong readings.

(3) asking Cashiers to delete the arrears indicated in the bills on production of the paid receipt.

(4) giving consumers about 10-12 days time for making payment of their bills.

(5) Issuing instructions to the Staff to give full particulars on the payment stub portion of the bill and ensure that the stubs do not get defaced by affixing of rubber stamps.

Industrial Alcohol

45. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the anticipated gap between the demand and supply of industrial alcohol during the year 1985-86 and how does it compare with the preceding years 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) to what extent the duty-free imports of industrial alcohol by actual users in deficit States have helped to tide over the shortage;

(c) what is the extent of decline in the production of industrial alcohol within the country during the last three years (year-wise) stating the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to evolve a long-term import policy for industrial alcohol to bridge the gap between its demand and supply; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The estimates of availability and demand of alcohol for the alcohol year 1985-86 (Dec. 1985--Nov. 1986) would be made by the Central Molasses Board in its next meeting proposed to be held some time in Dec., 1985/Jan., 1986 Any comparison with earlier years' production can be made thereafter.

(b) About 400 lakh litres of duty free import of denatured spirit has been permitted to actual users in deficit States so as to enable them to continue their production.

(c) No separate figures for industrial alcohol production is available. However, production of alcohol during last 3 years has not declined as is reflected in the production figures given below :

(in lakh litres)

Alcohol Year (Dec.-Nov.)	Production of alcohol
1981-82 . . .	5154
1982-83 . . .	5356
1983-84 . . .	5759

(d) The availability and demand of alcohol is assessed on a year to year basis in the beginning of the alcohol year (December-November) and the decision to allow duty free import of otherwise of Industrial alcohol is taken on that basis. The annual basis has been adopted since the production of alcohol is dependent on the total production of sugarcane and availability of molasses which varies with each agricultural season.

Turbo-Generators Manufactured by BHEL

46. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR-BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the 200/210 MW turbo-generators manufactured by BHEL in collaboration with the Soviet Union have developed serious defects;